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MONDAY MORNING, DECEMBER 25, 1905.

THERE'S got to be turkey, and ducks and ham,
 And ice cream and pudding and raspberry jam,
 And mince pie and doughnuts and cookies and all,
 And I—oh dear, I'm so dreadfully small!

An Important Step

LAST summer President Roosevelt appointed a commission to examine the naturalization laws and to make recommendations concerning revision. Desiring to have an expert rather than an amateur opinion, the commission was made up of men who have had practical experience with various phases of the naturalization problem, viz.: Milton D. Purdy, assistant attorney general; Gallard Hunt, chief of the passport bureau of the state department; and Richard K. Campbell, law officer of the bureau of immigration. This commission has filed its report. It recommends that the general principles of the existing law be respected in any new legislation, and then proceeds to suggest important changes. First, it would have no one admitted to citizenship who does not furnish satisfactory evidence that he intends permanently to reside in this country; second, that no one shall be admitted to citizenship who does not know the English language; third, that no naturalization shall be conferred within thirty days of a presidential or congressional election; fourth, that the declaration of intention, now made two years before naturalization, should be discontinued, and in place a provision substituted that a person desiring naturalization file a petition in the court in which his case is to be heard at least three months before the final hearing. In addition, the commission finds, which is not a surprising discovery, that many courts, both state and federal, are now exceedingly lax in their methods of granting naturalization, and recommends that naturalization be restricted to federal courts.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS to Max Frost, the old boss knocker at Santa Fe may his Christmas dinner offer all the good things the season affords, and his appetite and digestion be equal to the emergency—in the hope that it may improve his horrid disposition, and enable him to tell the truth about Albuquerque, sometimes.

About "Tainted Money"

DR. WASHINGTON GLADDEN'S resolution was down by the American board of commissioners for foreign missions—they would not consider it; and yet Dr. Gladden expresses his assurance that its intent is gained, and that it is now quite accepted that no application for help will again be made to men whose wealth has been gained with the reputation of dishonorable means. Still, says the Springfield Republican, the board did not dare to say no; the commissioners shirked their duty; they could not say outright what they knew was so, that they had done wrong, and would never do so again. And a Protestant Episcopal convention in New York state was equally afraid to condemn the growing encroachments of corporate wealth and to deplore the lowering of the old standards of honesty. Men eminent in the clergy of this church thought it inopportune, and indeed aside from the church business, to make any such moral pronouncement. They shirked, also. But, continues the Republican, the Springfield convocation of clergy and laymen, has not shirked. Its action came with a refreshment like the dew of Hermon that descend upon the mountains of Zion. "Whereas," began the resolution that was passed, "the recent revelations of lawlessness and wickedness in business and politics, ministry and society, have stirred to their depths the moral sensibilities of the nation," therefore these ministers and members of the Protestant Episcopal communion recognize the situation; acknowledge the responsibility of the Christian church; deplore its laggard attitude, and earnestly desire "that the church the whole land over shall take the position of moral leadership which it is both her duty and privilege to take," and "reverently and prayerfully" hope "that Christians of our fold and of every fold shall lose no opportunity to voice as we today are doing the Christian conscience of the land we love."

The Republican thinks the Springfield convocation has set the example for the whole church in America. If there be anything in Christianity more than a name, this is the way that the churches should speak. The press, notwithstanding its shortcomings, is ahead of the church, in this matter, and is outspoken in its denunciation of crooked methods in business as well as in politics.

IT IS intimated from England that there is to be a great revolution in men's dress, and that in the near future we shall see male bipeds strutting about in silks and satins, and all the colors of the rainbow. King Edward has set the pace by wearing a scarlet-colored Tam o' Shanter in public, and the tailors of the United Kingdom are praying that he will soon appear on the streets in robes of an equally vivid color, so as to encourage the donkeys who are longing to imitate him. Perhaps it is as good a use as the latter could make of their money to spend it on circus clothes.—San Francisco Chronicle.

A Good Way

IT IS currently reported that executive officers of many western railroads have agreed to aid in the enforcement of the inter-state commerce act by promptly notifying the commission of all violations. In the case of shipments passing over more than one line the way bills give to all connecting lines evidence of the improper rate if openly made by the initial line. If made by allowances from the general office the way bills prove nothing, and hence it is said in respect to rebates thus secretly made nothing but expert examination will disclose the facts. If the railroad executives are in earnest in this movement, they will, without waiting for any law to require it, prove their sincerity by freely opening their books to the expert accountants of the commission.

THE Las Vegas News has expatriated Wallace Hesseiden, one of the most prominent and substantial citizens of Albuquerque, and located him in Tucson, Arizona. You will have to take that right back. Mr. News, or you will run up against a bunch of trouble that will make your young life a burden. We have a few citizens that you might send to Tucson, or take to Las Vegas, without getting up any row with us about it, but Hesseiden isn't one of them.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS to the weather man—and may he have so much Christmas cheer that he will get over his tantrums and give back our New Mexico weather.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS to the hoboes. May they strike liberal hand-outs, proportioned to their appetites.

A MERRY CHRISTMAS to our enemies. Our friends will have one anyway, now, because they live right.

Christ, the Lord of The Passing Years

(By the Rev. J. W. Barron, Pastor of the Congregational Church.)

When the herald angels said to the astonished shepherds of Bethlehem, over nineteen centuries ago: "For unto you this day is born a Savior in the city of David, which is Christ the Lord," even he did not know what great events were wrapped up with that babe with its swaddling clothes lying in the manger. As we approach another Christmas day let us recall the fact that Christ is the Lord of the passing years, and that all great events and beneficent changes may be traced to Him. Before he came all the years had led up to His advent, and since the time of His coming in the flesh He has been leading forward the years and the centuries to that "far off" divine event, to which the whole creation moves, a new heaven and a new earth, wherein dwelleth righteousness.

Childhood owes a great debt to Jesus. Before a stable gave Him room and a manger became his cradle children had been rated very cheaply by the foremost nations of the world. Near the Lactarian column, in Rome, parents left defective infants and unwelcome feeble children to die of exposure or to be carried away by criminals who bought them up to be sold as slaves or trained them to a life of shame, and even Seneca, the moralist, commended this heartless custom. But Jesus took a little child, and placing him in the midst of a wondering multitude, He spoke of childhood that it was lifted into the kingdom of heaven and made forever sacred.

Woman now sits at Christ's feet and hails Him as her liberator. Under the Grecian and Roman law her standing was but little better than that of a household servant. Her marriage was a mercantile transaction; her husband had the power of life and death over her; and she had little control over her property, her earnings, or her children. But now woman stands at man's side as his companion and equal; and she owes her elevation to Him who humbled himself to be born of a virgin. All her rights are not yet accorded to her, but at Christ's feet she will certainly find redress of all wrongs and the possession of all rights.

The passing years bear testimony to the fact that Jesus is the author of civil as well as spiritual freedom. He refused to be a politician, but there is a liberty-giving spirit in His Gospel which makes it most potent of all political forces. Free men's souls from the bondage of sin, and the despots tremble before them, and either grant them their civil rights by the peaceful methods of constitutional reforms or are hurled from their seats by popular revolution. We can see the handwriting of Christ in the constitution of every representative government of modern times.

It is one of the marvelous surprises of history that Jesus, an unlettered man from provincial Galilee, a carpenter from despised Nazareth, should become the great founder of schools and colleges. The great educational institutions of the world are found in Christian lands, and when we can trace them back to their origin we find that they rest on Christian foundations. Formally, he founded no institutions of learning, and for centuries after His death pagan masters seemed to be all powerful in the schools; but, efficiently He founded all the noble institutions of learning which have blessed and are now blessing the Christian world.

The same is true of the best literature of the world; it is a Christian product. We do not underestimate the importance of classic literature, most of which appeared before Christ was born, and which played an important part in the intellectual awakening of the Renaissance, but when all is said, the most weighty and influential books of the world, especially the books that get into the hands of the people, may be traced to Christ who is the primal source of that great intellectual and spiritual awakening which has made Christian lands differ from all other lands. Even the books that do not formally recognize Christ, but which recognize Him to oppose Him, such as the vast scientific literature of the day, could have been written only in lands blessed by Christian civilization.

Jesus did not come to teach art, though his language showed that He had a poet's heart and soul, and was a lover of all beauty; but there was a spirit in His religion, which led, in time, to a renaissance of art. The architects and sculptors of the age of Pericles represent the acme of art under classical culture, and in the days of Christ art had entered on a decline. But Christianity taught men again how to build. The cathedrals of Christianity are the noblest structures under the sun. The finest pictures in the world are representations of Bible persons and scenes. The grandest music heard this side of heaven caught its inspiration from Christianity. The poems of first rank since men began to date events from the birth of Christ are distinctively Christian in theme, or reflect Christian civilization.

And then there are a number of beneficent results which have come about as the years are gradually unrolled from the scroll of time, because Christ is the Lord of the passing years, such results as the abolition of slavery; the establishment of hospitals, asylums and charitable institutions for all classes of unfortunate; a growing sentiment in opposition to war and in favor of arbitration; a growing sense of human brotherhood; a better ethics in business and in social life; and above all the steady spread of Christianity over the earth. All the first class nations of the world, the nations which will determine the policy of present and future time, are nominally Christian. They are far from being predominantly Christian; they are strongly secular, but are not heathen.

After the passage of more than nineteen centuries there is no name in the world like the name of Jesus. We see not as yet all things put under Him; but His kingdom is steadily advancing. His cross is everywhere victorious; and both the trend of events and the voice of prophecy declare, that the kingdom of this world shall become the kingdom of our Lord and of His Christ; He shall reign forever and ever.

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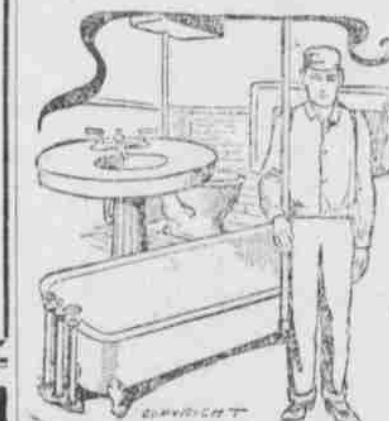
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